



The Trail Blazer

OFFICIAL ORGAN METROPOLITAN HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION · OAKLAND, CALIF.



APRIL, 1951

**APRIL 20—FRIDAY—SPRING DANCE
MAY 5-6—OVERNIGHT RIDE**

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The Trail Blazer

published monthly by the
METROPOLITAN HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION
Oakland, California

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News copy must reach Editor by 15th of month prior to publication; Advertising copy should be sent to Business Manager by the 10th.

**ALL COPY SUBJECT TO EDITORIAL
REVISION**

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Thursday, May 3, 7:30 p. m.
Coffeys', 12204 Skyline

FROM THE EDITOR'S POCKET:

HORSEMEN PLEASE NOTE: The Grass Valley sale is NOT YET COMPLETED and horsemen are requested to stay out of the area. Survey of the property and proper fire protection must be provided following final negotiations. Have PATIENCE . . . you'll be able to ride there later . . . MEANTIME, PLEASE COOPERATE! This request comes from the East Bay Municipal Utility District, present owners.

SAD NEWS . . . when loose horses trampled lawns and feasted on expensive plants in Hillcrest Estates . . . but Sadder because while some MHA'ers spend countless hours trying to build up good will for horses and horsemen . . . others tear it (good will and plants) all down by thoughtless acts.

THIS MONTH'S COVER

Well known to local horsemen and famous in Mexico, Central and South America is José de la Torre, known professionally as El Coyote. José was born in Guadalupe. He is shown here on NURI-AS-SAID, Arabian stallion owned by C. W. Countryman.

MORE DUES PAID

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SPRING DANCE, FRIDAY, APRIL 20

Metropolitan Horsemen will enjoy a merry evening on FRIDAY, APRIL 20 when the annual Spring Dance is held at the Montclair Women's Club. The fun starts at 8 p. m. and western dress is suggested.

Tickets are \$1.20 per person (includes tax) and can be secured at stables or from any Board Members.

OVERNIGHT RIDE, MAY 5-6

Get the bedding roll aired out and check your equipment for the overnight ride, which will start from the Crossroads around noon on May 5.

A stop will be made at Round Top, then on to Tilden, and the untangling of bed rolls. Get your equipment well-labeled, take a horse blanket, halter, and two tie ropes.

Awake to bacon-scented air, tour Tilden Park, stop for refreshments en route home and so to bed, tired but satisfied.

MHA TRAIL RIDES

All riders will be welcomed on the Saturday and Sunday trail rides announced by Mrs. Onalee Phillips, Trail Rides Chairwoman.

April 15—Sunday, Mrs. Onalee Phillips, 2 p. m. from the Crossroads.

April 21—Saturday, Heber Brown, 2 p. m. from the Crossroads.

April 28—Sunday, Mr. Prentice Munson, 2 p. m. from Mountain Blvd. and Werner Court.

May 13—Sunday, Johnny and Ollie Curry, 2 p. m. from the Crossroads.

May 19 — Saturday, Margaret Rukavina, 2 p. m. from the Crossroads.

May 27 — Sunday, Joe and Nina Stern, 2 p. m. from the Crossroads.

First participants in the new trail rides series who braved weather in early March were Mrs. Chown, Sidney Chown, Janet Phillips, Barbara Baxter, Robert Baxter, Sue Gorie, Carol Williams and Mr. Arro. At each succeeding ride a larger crowd showed up. If you want further word regarding the rides call Mrs. Phillips at AN. 1-6763 and watch the Thursday night Tribune for announcements.

MHA HORSE SHOW

Plans for the MHA Horse Show which will be held on June 23-24 are well under way and the following schedule of events is announced:

Saturday, June 23, Junior Show

10 a. m.—EQUITATION

I—Hunting Seat

II—Saddle Horse Seat

- III—Stock Horse Seat
- 1 p. m.—IV—Equitation — Children's Jumpers (performance only)
- V—Pleasure Horses—English
 - (a) Thoroughbred
 - (b) Saddlebred
- VI—Pleasure Horses—Western
- VII—Novice Stock Horse Class
- VIII—Lead-line Class
- IX—Pole Bending
- X—Relay Race
- XI—Musical Tires—Double Bareback

Sunday, June 24, Senior Show

- I—Hunters (Open)
- II—Jumpers: knock down and out
- III—Stock Horses (Open)
- IV—Three Gaited Saddle Horses (Open)
- V—Western Trail Horses
- VI—Western Pleasure Horses
 - (a) Solid Color
 - (b) Palomino
 - (c) Pinto
- VII—Pairs
 - (a) English
 - (b) Western
- VIII—Pleasure Horses—English
 - (a) Road Hack
 - (b) Park Hack
- IX—Parade Horses

Classes I to IV in Senior Show will be money classes; all other classes plate and ribbons.

The show is to be judged according to American Horse Show Rules.

MHA PLANTS A TREE

On March 10, MHA members assisted in the Conservation Week tree planting program of the Oakland Park Department. Armed with shovels and picks but relieved of the manual labor by two sturdy park employees, were Trails Committee members George Daniels and Sidney Chown assisted by George Walling, Ward Gallo, Phebe Brown, Pat Wirt.

Members gathering for the occasion were twenty MHA Juniors, the color guard of Shongehon, Burton Thomas, Joe and Nina Stern, Jerald and Mary Lou Hansen, Helen Daniels, Ralph Coffey, Kay Walling, W. C. Matthews.

This is the FIRST actual step toward trying to connect the now ending-in-nowhere Bert York Trail with something at the lower end . . . Let's keep at it . . . let's get 'em hitched. . .

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MHA JUNIORS

Many Juniors attended their March meeting on horseback, riding later to the tree-planting ceremonies at Leona Park. A class in horsemanship, a veterinary lecture, and a Treasure Hunt were discussed. Bob McKinstrey was elected Sergeant-at-Arms to replace Jack Miller who resigned.

Achievements of Juniors included a second for Bev Pettebone in the consolation class at the Cressmount Schooling Show, third for Carol De Meo on Red, and fourth for Carol Cosgriff in the same class. Pat Wirt on Toy placed third in the hackamore class. The Junior Relay Team lost out to Shongehon.

Active in recent Junior activities: Dolores Doyas, Marion Parson, Carol Williams, Phebe Brown, Jack Miller, Ward Gallo, Diane Lombardi, Carol Peebley, Sonya Slavich, Janet Phillips, Wally Freitas, Joy Wood, Margaret Long, Rich Neves, Stanford Davis, Marjorie Tennant, Roy Anderson, Linda Camera, Barbara Bilsky, Kathy Corder, Sue Hooper, Sandy Hooper, Barbara Dorsey, Sally Ann Mack, Mari-Jo Mack, Shirlee Johnstad, Gay George, Bev Pettebone, Carol Cosgriff, Carol De Meo, Lea Buck, Pat Wirt, Ruth Orcutt, Barbara Isham.

TRIBUTE TO A JUNIOR

Less than a year ago Carol Williams learned to ride, taking full charge of Elsa Himmelman's mare Peanuts. Every day Carol groomed the horse and practiced riding. Even in the two weeks absence of Elsa, Carol maintained her schedule without supervision. As a result of her faithful work, she won honors the first time she rode in competition with experienced riders.

Eleven year old Carol Williams won first place in the trail class at Cressmount's Schooling Show, March 4.

HURRY — JUNIORS

Time's a fleeting. When you read this there will only be 45 days left in which to win those wonderful awards for securing memberships.

HURRY! HUSTLE!

What would you buy with that big \$35 order on Kelly's Western Shirt Shop or the \$30 or \$15 order at Earl Nanninga's? or maybe you'll win that \$27.50 one at The Broadway!

It might be an idea to stick around the Crossroads on week-ends and give your sales talk to some of the riders or you might check on the lists of paid members in the last few Trail Blazers and see who's missing.

Additional membership blanks can be secured from Gus Himmelman.



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Personals

RECEIVING BOUQUETS and sending thanks is Virginia Patten recovering nicely from an operation; not sending thanks but wanting red carnations in her daily diet is Toy, Flossie LeJeal's mare who received a Valentine corsage from Tony, Babe Lampton's pinto stallion. UP AND AROUND again, thank goodness: John H. Langfield after a horseback accident; A. B. Graham after a serious illness; Ida Thompson and Mabel Smith after a bout with flu; Carolyn Blanch after a horse back-flipped on her foot; Juanita Gray, her broken vertebrae mended; Mrs. Clarence Smith out of the hospital.

STILL DOWN: Barbara Gurley with a back injury; George Cardinet in the Pittsburgh Hospital with several broken ribs. Do send some cheer cards and notes to these: Sylvia Watts, Treasurer of the Animal Center, who has been in a cumbersome cast since December; Luce Norris, hospitalized because of post-flu complications.

HOPPING MORE AND LESS on crutches—Janet Phillips and Barbara Campbell because of skis.

BACK TO THE CAVE DAYS for Es Norris and Bill Maxfield when the canyon slide took out power lines—Es cooked her breakfast in the fireplace and Bill couldn't get out of his electric-eye-controlled gas-buggy stable.

CONGRATULATIONS: to Mary Lou Hansen for doing a grand job subbing during Miss-Cress' recuperation; to the J. A. Kennedys of Robinson Drive on acquiring a new three-quarter thoroughbred gelding Bannock Star; to Richard Denner on his 9th birthday when he acquired a new pinto Patches and to his Dad who bought himself a horse named Copper; to Dorothy Kaehler on becoming a member of the landed gentry with purchase of a 5 acre ranch near Walnut Creek; to Mrs. Lena Conners, Skyline Kitchen Chef de Luxe on moving into her new home on Skyline Ranch; to Bev Franklin for the fine work he is doing on Rahada, Bucky Johnstone's new colt and on Victoria, half Morgan-half Standard bred colt given to Mrs. Sidney Chown by I. L. Borden. Incidentally Victoria is named after Mr. Borden's Victoria Island . . . where 300 horses were in his possession at the time of his death.

UNBELIEVABLE. . . Lila Ray on a Black Cat and Gladys Smith on a Red Fox . . . you'll be seeing them.

RESCUED by Charles Hall, mounted unit, Oakland Police, a Skyline housewife who had almost bought more magazines . . . Hall arrived on the dot . . . the magazine salesman had just come through the Redwood Road stop sign faster than he thought.

SEEN RIDING RECENTLY . . . Justinian Caire and his two daughters . . . Dorothy Tarr on carrot-fed Tera and leading colt My Own . . . Joan Hartley exercising Bill Senecal's palomino Golden Glow . . . Judy White delivering Trail Blazer copy.

JOINING the Trail Blazer Staff—W. C. Mathews to assist with advertising; Joella Mahoney mailing art work while on vacation in Arizona.

* * *

NICE JOB . . .

Plenty of fellow members, greetings with neighboring horsemen's organizations, a delightful meeting spot and NO SPEECHES . . . featured the March Open Meeting at the Brazilian Room at Tilden Park. No one got lost although it is rumored that one woman went out in the a. m. and tried all the roads so she wouldn't direct her husband on any wrong turns. Starry-eyed from the breath-taking view, and not minding at all a short recess for press photos, the members chatted and got better acquainted.

Firsts to: Richard Walpole for a fine program, to Howard Young for managing the meeting, to Elsa and Gus Himmelman for dispensing the food, and to the Juniors for trucking out and attending en masse, and to our neighboring horsemen and faithful MHA members who braved chill weather to attend the meeting.

STAMPEDE and HORSE SHOW

On April 29 the Clements Buckaroos will hold their Stampede and Horse Show with \$100 Stock Horse, \$50 Hackamore, and \$25 Stake Horse purses. Pleasure classes, team roping, cutting horses, western pairs, parade of stallions, saddle broncs and wild cow milking are some of the events. There are special classes for juniors.

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PIEDMONT STABLES

There's lots of color at Piedmont: sorrel for the new star boarder, Mrs. Beverly Adams' filly colt out of mare Rosie sired by Comet L; palomino for the Pattens' new horse colt out of Negra sired by Black Cat. John Langfield has brought in his palomino mare, and Hal King returned from Honolulu, is now riding his grey Arabian stallion Abdul.

Two colorful riders now on the trails frequently are Isabel Pfeiffer and Janet Pray, however, the most colorful addition at Piedmont recently is the new char- treuse convertible presented by Mitch to Mabel Robbins.

PINTO RANCH

Whether they were too eager to get up the hills, or too tired to walk, will never be known but just before spring arrived Bill Barnard and Ronnie Dunniway decided to drive Bill's car to the arena where the MHA Juniors drill. Woe, (or should we say "Whoa! Where's Dobbin") . . . they bogged down in mud above the hubs and called for assistance from Bruce Or- cutt and the Pinto Ranch tractor. Rescue was made only after hours of digging, tugging, and wading.

MISS GRAHAM'S

Two boarders missing out on the fine riding weather but not minding at all, are Mrs. Harry Fair on several months' visit in Australia, and Mr. and Mrs. Harrison Davis, vacationing in southern Europe.

New boarders include Mr. James Arro and his fine quarter horse Commander, both from Santa Rosa; Mrs. Glen L. Stanley and son Bud recently arrived from Salt Lake

City, have brought in Betsy a three-gaited Hamiltonian mare, and Pede a sorrel and white Pinto.

A group from Miss Mary Spencer's Sun- day School Class escorted on a ride by Miss Graham recently included: Mrs. G. M. Girdwood, Joan Haldeman, Joan Gird- wood, Mildred Koch, Janice Harrison, Nancy Carlson, Mary Spencer.

A steady rider is Lynn Teasdel, daugh- ter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank W. Teasdel. Lynn rides Miss Graham's horse Rena.

CRESSMOUNT Schooling Shows

Killarney owned by Miss Cornelia Cress was high score winner for the English division in the three Cressmount School- ing Shows. Miss Cindy owned by Virginia Grondona and shown by Virginia and Walleen Grondona won the Western divi- sion.

Winners in the third show were: Hunt- ers—open: Crusader owned by Oakland Riding Academy and ridden by Sylvia King; Junior Trail: Peanuts owned by Elsa Himmelman and ridden by Carol Williams; Western pairs: Miss Cindy and Ace owned and ridden by Virginia and Walleen Grondona; Jumpers-scurry: Kil- arney owned by Miss Cornelia Cress and ridden by Dede Brandes; Western Equi- tation-adults: Gene Lockhard on Rob- bin; Pleasure Horses-style and action: Lights Out owned by C. Holt and ridden by Peggy Glaser; Juaquima: Road Sign owned and ridden by Eddie Caton; Hunt- er Hacks: Gold Cargo with Muriel Rad- cliff up and owned by Cornelia Cress; Equitation-13-16: Peggy Glaser riding Lights Out; Consolation Class won by Stardust owned and ridden by D. Lind- strom.

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* * *

How many of us know that on the highways the horse has the right-of-way? Most drivers stop for us to pass, but there are some that roar by practically blowing us out of our saddles. Sec. 532 of the California Motor Vehicle Code states, "When approaching any horsedrawn vehicle, any ridden animal, or livestock you must slow down and stop if necessary or directed to do so by the person in charge of such animal or livestock." So there!

* * *

Bit & Spur magazine call their editorial chit-chat a "Horsetorial."

Horse Laundry! A new service for the horseman. Blankets cleaned and repaired. Line forms to the right, please. And there's lots of room — its in Los Angeles!

* * *

If you can get a copy of The Horse Lover, for Dec.-Jan., be sure to read the article by Hobart Bosworth, "A Man and His Horse." You'll go out and give your nag an extra pat. Also same magazine, same issue, an offer of those wonderful Charles Russell reproductions. Any horse lover can use some of these.

* * *

Our West Coast show horse magazine, "Tan Bark & Turf" folded last month. Subscriptions are being completed by "The Horse World" published in Iowa, with former editor, "Tan Bark & Turf" conducting a good West Coast section.

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ORGANIZATIONS—

SHERIFF'S POSSE-AAHMES RANGERS HOLD JOINT RIDE

With the weatherman co-operating by giving the most beautiful Sunday of the year, the joint ride of the Shrine Rangers, Sheriff's Posse, and wives, was a complete success with about 35 riders participating. The ride was led by the two Captains, Emmett Boger and James Myers.

Committee members for the Posse were Bob Hubbard, Joe Stern, Cal Tisher, while Frank Kelly, Floyd Jacobs, and Dave Jones served for the Rangers. Joe Young, Joe Merritt, and Dick Weske dispensed cheer.

Memorable items: Past Captain Eddie Carey of the Posse riding flat saddle; a birthday cake from Ida for Jim Myers, Frank and Francys Kelly and Joe Merritt; the Van den Bergs on two wonderful Arabs; Mel Coe's complete caravan being towed up the hill by Frank Rukavina's big truck; the Hubbards, Pfeiffers and Farars square-dancing.

Aahmes Rangers notes: twice-a-week instruction in police and patrol work for civilian defense; participation in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in San Francisco; practice drills; helping Captain Emmet Boger pass out cigars because of a new grandson.

Alameda County Sheriff's Posse notes: participation in the San Francisco St. Patrick's Day parade and in the Grand Opening of the Oakland Baseball Season on March 27; the color guard present at the Grand Opening of the Eden Recreation Center on March 31; sponsoring the Northern Station Police League Junior Baseball Team, with J. L. Martin acting as Chairman.

BOOTS AND JEANS

Over 600 attended the Boots and Jeans fifth annual dance at the Moose Club and a bang-up time was had by all. On March 21 the group doffed their jeans, put on the best bib and tucker and dined and danced at the Acapulco Club on the Tunnel Strip.

The first public appearance of the square dancers on horseback will be at the grand opening of the Eden Recreational Center at Ashland.

FOOTPRINTERS

Plans for riding in the St. Patrick's day parade were outlined at the semi-monthly meeting held at Mel Coe's and all had hopes that the new black and white coronas would be ready for the event.

Memberships are now open for joining the Chapter No. 7 proper of I. F. A. and by joining one becomes eligible to join the mounted unit. For information please

contact Leo Raschdorf, 2121 East 29th St., where membership blanks can be obtained.

The unit is proud of its member Eddie Burgk, now Captain of the mounted Civilian Defense group and extends wishes for his success.

Meantime, Eddie Martin, Ted Jahn, Babe Tallarico and Burl Prince have been raising and razing buildings, bull-dozing, and whipping B-S into a new shape.

MOUNTED UNIT—Oakland Police

On June 3 the Mounted Unit will hold their First Annual Horse Show at Miss Graham's arena. Some unusual attractions are promised. Admission tickets at 50c can be secured at any of the stables or from members of the Unit.

The Unit has been invited to participate in the Marin County Sheriff's Posse, overnight ride on Saturday, May 19 and it is hoped that a return ride on Oakland's beautiful trails can be arranged later.

Diplomas will be received soon for the course completed at the Oakland City Hall—and don't try any tricks on the group, for they have also completed a course in jujitsu at the Corollo School and may also go into judo.

Well represented in the S. F. St. Patrick's Day parade, the unit was led by Captain Harry Peckham and Lt. Hall.

It's good news to learn that the accident, which occurred to Captain Peckham's horse Hidalgo, was not serious and that Hidalgo was able to take a 7 hour ride.

SAME FACES—NEW NAME

The San Pablo Horsemen will in the future be known as the Tri Cities Horsemen's Association with membership covering the areas of Richmond, El Cerrito, and San Pablo. Cities have replaced the old Rancho San Pablo, hence the demise of the old name . . . but the horsemen carry on still.

Officers for the Tri Cities Horsemen's Association for 1951 are: George W. Ellwanger, president; A. T. Wanlass, vice president; L. H. Peterson, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Carroll Gossett, corresponding secretary. The Board of Governors includes Leo Armstrong, George F. Brooks, John Emerich, Carroll Gossett, John T. Lee.

TENNESSEE WALKER OWNERS AND ADMIRERS

Admirers and owners of Tennessee Walking Horses in this area are invited to contact Mr. Ed Hedges, 883 Kenyon Avenue, San Leandro, LO. 9-7524 with the idea of promoting further interest in this popular breed. Mr. Hedges is making arrangements to bring the Tennessee Walker film "Free and Easy" out for showing in this area. Are we all invited?

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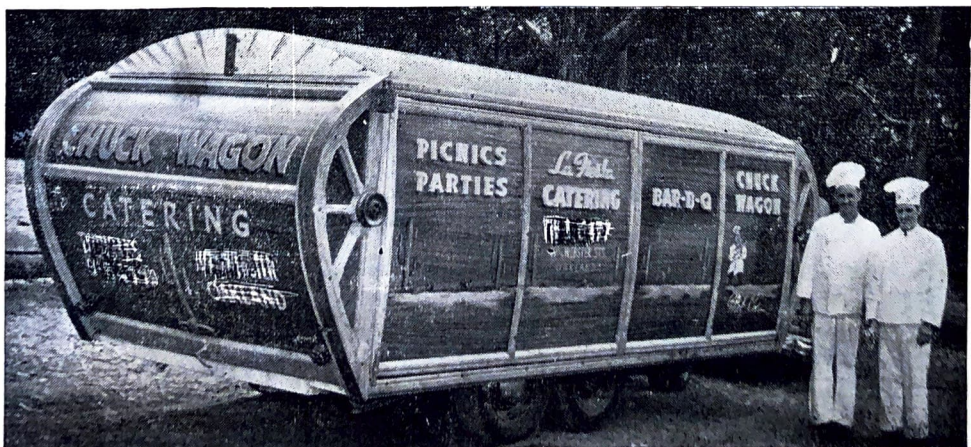
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REMEMBER THESE DATES

April 20—FRIDAY—MHA SPRING DANCE, MONTCLAIR WOMEN'S CLUB

April 29—Clements Stampede and Horse Show, Clements, Calif.

April 29—Napa Spring Horse Show.

May 5-6—MHA OVERNIGHT RIDE.

May 19-20—Rowell's Rodeo, Hayward.

May 30—MHA ANNUAL GEORGE DANIELS TRAIL RIDE AND FIELD DAY.

June 3—Horse Show, Oakland Mounted Police, at Miss Graham's.

**June 21—METROPOLITAN HORSEMEN'S PRE-HORSE SHOW PARADE, Evening,
Downtown Oakland.**

June 23-24—METROPOLITAN HORSEMEN'S NINTH ANNUAL HORSE SHOW.

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MEMBERSHIP GROWS

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April ?